

Abrams



MISSION

Provide heavy armor superiority on the battlefield.

DESCRIPTION AND SPECIFICATIONS

The Abrams tank modernization strategy supports the Army Vision. The Abrams tank closes with and destroys enemy forces on the integrated battlefield using mobility, firepower, and shock effect. The 105 mm main gun on the M1 and IPM1, and the 120 mm main gun on the M1A1 and M1A2, combined with the powerful 1,500 hp turbine engine and special armor, make the Abrams tank particularly suitable for attacking or defending against large concentrations of heavy armor forces in a highly lethal battlefield. Additional features of the M1A1 are increased armor protection; suspension improvements; and a nuclear, biological, and chemical (NBC) protection system that increases survivability in a contaminated environment. The M1A1 with Applique consists of a M1A1 with integrated Applique+ computer. The M1A1 "D" modification scheduled for 1535 M1A1s adds far-target-designate capability to complement the Applique+ computer.

The M1A2 program provides the Abrams tank with the necessary improvements in lethality, survivability, and fightability required to defeat advanced threats. The M1A2 includes a commander's independent thermal viewer, an improved commander's weapon station, position navigation equipment, a distributed data and power architecture, an embedded diagnostic system, and improved fire control system. The M1A2 system enhancement program (SEP) adds second-generation thermal sensors and upgrades processors/memory to enable the M1A2 to use the Army's common command and control software enabling the rapid transfer of digital situational data and overlays. The Abrams modernization strategy also includes an engine program and parts obsolescence program, which will reduce O&S costs and logistical footprint associated with the Abrams MBT.

	M1/IPM1	M1A1	M1A2
Length:	32.04 ft	32.04 ft	32.04 ft
Width:	12.0 ft	12.0 ft	12.0 ft
Height:	7.79 ft	8.0 ft	8.0 ft
Top speed:	45.0/41.5 mph	41.5 mph	41.5 mph
Weight:	61.4/62.8 tons	67.6 tons	68.4 tons
Armament:	105 mm	120 mm	120 mm
Crew:	4	4	4

FOREIGN COUNTERPART

France: Leclerc; Germany: Leopard 2; Israel: Merkava Mk. 3; Italy: C1 Ariete; Russia: T-64, T-72, and T-80; United Kingdom: Challenger 2.

FOREIGN MILITARY SALES

Egypt: 555 M1A1 Kits, Kuwait: 218 M1A2s, Saudi Arabia: 315 M1A2s.

PROGRAM STATUS

Production of the M1A2 has entered the fourth year of a five-year, multi-year procurement. The total M1A2 fleet is projected to be 1,174 vehicles. The modification of 1,535 M1A1s to the M1A1D configuration occurs primarily in the ongoing Abrams integrated management overhaul program. A sale of 100 M1A1 kits to Egypt is pending.

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

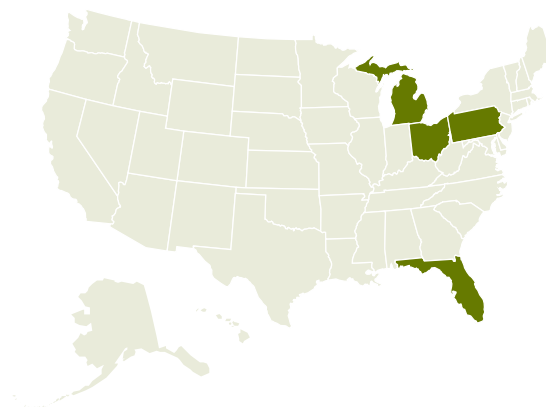
1QFY00 Complete follow-on operational test and evaluation of the M1A2 system SEP at Ft. Hood.

2QFY00 Participate in the Force XXI Battle Command Brigade and Below limited user test II with the M1A1 with Applique+ tanks.

4QFY00 M1A2 SEP and M1A1D first unit equipped (4th Infantry Division).

PRIME CONTRACTORS

General Dynamics (Sterling Heights, MI; Warren, MI; Muskegon, MI; Scranton, PA; Lima, OH; Tallahassee, FL)



* See appendix for list of subcontractors

